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WO 2004/063905 (54) Title: APPARATUS, METHOD, AND ARTICLE OF MANUFACTURE FOR VISUALIZING STATUS IN A COMPUTER ENVIRONMENT

(57) **Abstract:** There is provided herein an exemplary technique utilizing at least one application status icon for visualizing the status of important metrics of, e.g., one or more applications running within a compute infrastructure. In an exemplary embodiment, the application status icon is located on a device display, preferably as part of a graphical user interface icon tray, such as Microsoft® Windows® system tray. To generate the appropriate color of the application status icon, several predefined test or database queries are executed to determine the status of a desired application. Thereafter, the determined status is compared to a plurality of threshold conditions, which determine the state of a given status metric and contribute to the overall color of the application status icon, preferably located on the display device. Thus, a user or manager need not run an application to check its status. Instead, the manager need only view the color of the application status icon on the display device to determine the overall health of a plurality of underlying metrics, which contribute to the creation of the application status icon's color.